

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A drainage system comprising:

a suction nozzle for sucking and discharging a solution from a vessel;

support means for supporting the suction nozzle for movement toward the vessel; and

suction nozzle moving means including urging means for urging the suction nozzle toward the vessel,

the suction nozzle moving means being capable of positioning the suction nozzle with the distal end thereof in contact with a lowest position of the inner wall surface of the vessel;

wherein suction is performed while the distal end is in contact with the lowest position of the inner wall surface of the vessel.

Claim 2 (original): A drainage system comprising:

a suction nozzle for sucking and discharging a solution from a vessel;

a magnet; and

magnet moving means for supporting the magnet so as to be movable toward and away from the vessel,

the magnet being capable of holding magnetic particles in a given position in the vessel by being moved toward the vessel by the magnet moving means.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A drainage system comprising:

a buffer tank;

a plurality of suction nozzles for sucking and discharging a solution from a vessel;

a branch manifold connected to the suction nozzles through pipes;

a suction pump for suction from the suction nozzles through the branch manifold; and

liquid conveying means for feeding a liquid into the pipes between the branch manifold and each of the suction nozzles, thereby filling the pipes with the liquid,

the suction pump being capable of operating so that the solution in the vessel can be sucked out simultaneously from the suction nozzles through the branch manifold;

wherein the buffer tank is situated between the suction pump and the branch manifold.

Claim 4 (original): A drainage system comprising:

a plurality of suction nozzles for sucking and discharging a solution from a vessel;

support means for supporting the suction nozzles for movement toward the vessel;

suction nozzle moving means including urging means for urging the suction nozzles toward the vessel;

a magnet;

magnet moving means for supporting the magnet so as to be movable toward and away from the vessel;

a branch manifold connected to the suction nozzles through pipes; a suction pump for suction from the suction nozzles through the branch manifold; and

liquid conveying means for feeding a liquid into the pipes between the branch manifold and each of the suction nozzles, thereby filling the pipes with the liquid,

the suction nozzle moving means being capable of positioning the suction nozzle with the distal end thereof in contact with the inner wall surface of the vessel,

the magnet being capable of holding magnetic particles in a given position in the vessel by being moved toward the vessel by the magnet moving means, and

the suction pump being capable of operating so that the solution in the vessel can be sucked out simultaneously from the suction nozzles through the branch manifold.